

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2309

April 8, 2017

The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross, Jr.  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Ross:

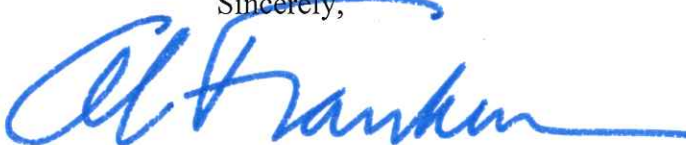
As you complete your final administrative review of anti-dumping duties on Oil Country Tubular Goods (OCTG) imported from South Korea, I write to urge you to take strong steps to combat unfair trade practices. As you know, Oil Country Tubular Goods are the steel pipes used in oil and gas drilling operations. Minnesota's Iron Range accounts for the vast majority of U.S. iron production. Therefore, allowing South Korean OCTG producers to unfairly dump their products in the United States puts the jobs of Minnesota workers at risk.

The U.S. iron and steel industry has suffered greatly from dumping of an array of foreign steel products in the last few years, and it has only recently begun to recover. In Minnesota alone, thousands of workers lost their jobs when iron mines were shuttered, and while some mines have recently reopened, many other iron and steel workers remain without jobs. Now is not the time to allow unfair and illegal foreign trade practices to again put U.S. iron and steel jobs at risk.

I believe the U.S. government must stand up for American iron and steel workers when their jobs and livelihoods are threatened by unfair and illegal trade practices by foreign producers. In 2014, the Department of Commerce and International Trade Commission determined that South Korean OCTG producers had been unfairly dumping their products in the United States at prices below fair value, and that the U.S. iron and steel industry faced significant injury as a result. To remedy this, the Department of Commerce put in place duties on OCTG imported from South Korea. The Department is now reviewing those duty determinations, and it has issued a preliminary decision that reduced some of the applicable duty rates effective late last year. As a result of the preliminary decision, imports of South Korean OCTG have skyrocketed in recent months, putting at risk the jobs of some U.S. iron and steel workers who have only recently been able to return to work.

It is critical that the Department of Commerce fully investigate the South Korean OCTG industry and issue a final duty determination that fully reflects the scale and scope of the dumping of OCTG by South Korea. American workers deserve a government that stands strong against unfair and illegal trade practices. Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Al Franken  
U.S. Senator

[WWW.FRANKEN.SENATE.GOV](http://WWW.FRANKEN.SENATE.GOV)